

OGC 62-0981

62

11 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: McGraw-Hill Interest in Powers' Story

1. Mr. Morrie Helitzer of McGraw-Hill called on 10 May, saying Powers and his attorney, Mr. Williamson from Steptoe & Johnson, were coming to see him Friday afternoon, 11 May, and he would like to talk to me first. I saw Mr. Helitzer in his office in the National Press Building on Thursday afternoon, 10 May. He said he would merely like my personal views as to whether there was much new that could be offered by Powers which would not be subject to security restrictions so they could make some judgment as to whether they should make an offer to Powers. I said it was my view that not a great deal would be given by Powers that had not already come out in the press. He, Powers, is well aware of the security limitations and is also the type of person who would tell his story exactly as he saw it without speculation or embellishment. I said there was little about the flight itself which was classified, but all of this had been in the press and I felt that Powers would tell the story again exactly as he told it before. Mr. Helitzer said there was still some mystery about what happened when he came down, and I said I was quite sure that so far as Powers was concerned he would merely tell what he experienced and no more. I said there were some details of his stay in prison that had not yet been published which did not involve any security problems but they were not very dramatic and the main interest lay in the fact that he was not badly treated.

2. Mr. Helitzer asked about Powers' wife, and I merely said that I felt in all probability Powers would not want to discuss his private life publicly.

11 MAY 1962

3. I said on the whole I felt there was not a great deal new or dramatic to be obtained from Powers himself.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

cc: Asst to DCI (Col. Grogan)

[REDACTED]

25X1A